

Message Text

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60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /089 W

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R 181450Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3423

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD EG US

SUBJECT: GSP AND REVERSE PREFERENCES

REF: A. STATE 55671 B. CAIRO 1564

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO EARLIER EXCHANGES ON TRADE ACT AND RELATED MATTER (REF B), EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH OFFICIALS AT MFA DESIGNATION OF EGYPT AS BENEFICIARY UNDER GSP. IN KEEPING WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REF A, QUESTION OF POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON US EXPORTS AS RESULT REVERSE PREFERENCES FOR COMMODITIES IMPORTED FROM EC WAS RAISED AND WXPLAINED, WITH EMPHASIS OF FACT THAT THERE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE ANY SUCH EFFECTS AT THIS TIME. NECESSITY FOR CONTINUING REVIEW WAS ALSO MENTIONED AND APPEARED TO BE FULLY UNDERSTOOD.

2. AS FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED, EGYPT HAS NO PLANS AT THIS TIME TO DISCONTINUE REVERSE PREFERENCES, NOR HAS THE POSSIBILITY EVER BEEN CONSIDERED AT THE WORKING LEVEL. JUST-COMPLETED CABINET CHANGES MAY ALTER SITUATION, BUT THIS IS UNLIKELY IN SHORT-RUN, PARTICULARLY AS RESULT OF LARGE NUMBER OF FAR MORE URGENT PROBLEMS WITH WHICH GOE MUST DEAL ON ECONOMIC FRONT.

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3. COMMENT: GENERAL LEVEL OF EGYPTIAN INTEREST IN TRADE ACT AND GSP QUESTION REMAINS RELATIVELY LOW, IN KEEPING WITH ATTENTION BEING FOCUSED ON MORE PRESSING MATTERS. MFA OFFICIALS WERE GRATEFUL FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED, BUT ASKED NO QUESTIONS.

4. PRESIDENT FORD'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES FOR GSP WAS PRESENTED IN LOCAL PRESS BY CALLING ATTENTION TO LIST OF COUNTRIES EXCLUDED AS BEING "BLACKLISTED", BUT THIS HAS NOT THUS FAR RESULTED IN ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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